

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 054765

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 /013 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:RWAHERNE:BH

APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, SA, US

SUBJECT: PENDING FMS LETTERS OF OFFER: STATUS REPORT ON
CONGRESSIONAL ACTION

1. HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE MARCH 3 MET IN
OPEN SESSION TO MARK UP RESOLUTIONS OFFERED BY CONGRESSMAN
ROSENTHAL TO DISAPPROVE FMS LETTERS OF OFFER SUBMITTED
FEB. 17 (TANKS, APC'S, DRAGON MISSILE SYSTEM, VULCAN GUNS,
MAVERICK MISSILES, COE CONSTRUCTION). AFTER LENGTHY
DEBATE ON PROS AND CONS OF THESE SALES, AND MORE GENERALLY
ON U.S. POLICY TOWARD SAUDI ARABIA, COMMITTEE VOTED TO
TABLE THE RESOLUTIONS, THUS ENDING HOUSE ACTION ON THE
SUBJECT. BECAUSE OF VOICE VOTE IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE RECORD
EXACT RECORD OF THOSE VOTING, BUT ABOUT 24 MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE WERE PRESENT, AND ONLY TWO (ROSENTHAL, WOLFF)
VOTED AGAINST THE TABLING MOTION. IN ALL THE DEBATE, AND
THE TWO HEARINGS WHICH PRECEDED IT (WITH ASST SEC ATHERTON
AND LT.GEN. FISH AS WITNESSES) GAVE A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY
FOR THOROUGH AND OPEN EXAMINATION OF OUR POLICY TOWARD
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SAUDI ARABIA, AND PARTICULARLY OUR MILITARY RELATIONSHIP.

OVERWHELMING VOTE IN FAVOR OF GOING AHEAD WITH CURRENT
SALES SPEAKS FOR ITSELF.

2. AS OF WEEK'S END, WE HAVE NO INDICATION THAT SENATE
WILL TAKE ANY ACTION ON THE LETTERS OF OFFER. TWENTY-DAY
REVIEW PERIOD EXPIRES MARCH 8.
KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CREDIT, LOWER HOUSE, RESOLUTIONS, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE054765
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RWAHERNE:BH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760085-0410
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760388/aaaaczxu.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <21 JUN 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PENDING FMS LETTERS OF OFFER: STATUS REPORT ON CONGRESSIONAL ACTION
TAGS: MASS, SA, US
To: JIDDA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006